

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 DHA-02 ORM-01 SCCT-01 SAM-01 ACDA-05 OMB-01

AID-05 /081 W

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R 101625Z OCT 75

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4294

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

CINCLANT

CINCEUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, SREF, SOCI, AO

SUBJ: ANGOLA - ROUNDUP OCTOBER 9

1. CITY LIFE: SHORTAGES OF COMMON FOODSTUFFS HAVE BECOME MORE NOTICEABLE AND PRICES ARE HIGH. LONG LINES APPEAR OUTSIDE STORES WITH ALMOST ANY TYPE OF FOOD FOR SALE. BREAD, PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN THE URBAN DIET, HAS BEEN ALMOST NON-EXISTENT FOR ABOUT ONE WEEK, ALTHOUGH WHEAT RECENTLY ARRIVED IN LUANDA BY SHIP. IT SEEMS THAT WHITE BAKERS HAVE LEFT FOR LISBON. WE HAVEN'T SEEN A TAXI FOR A WEEK. CITY WATER AND POWER LINES HAVE BEEN OCCASIONALLY INTERRUPTED. (IT WOULD SEEM A SIMPLE MATTER FOR FNLA TO CUT THE SUPPLY OF BOTH TO LUANDA FROM THEIR NEARBY POSITIONS).

2. EVACUATION: WHEN THE HOLDING CAMP FOR REFUGEES FROM THE INTERIOR

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IS EMPTY (THE PARACHUTE BATTALION BARRACKS) AND IT WAS EMPTY ON

OCT. 8 AND REFUGEE SHIPS FROM SOUTHWESTERN ANGOLA ARE NOT IN LUANDA HARBOR READY TO DISCHARGE THEIR EXHAUSTED HUMAN CARGO DIRECTLY TO THE AIRPORT, CALLS FOR THE DEPARTURE OF LUANDA RESIDENTS PLANNING TO LEAVE FOR LISBON ARE MADE ON THE LUANDA RADIO. FEW RESPOND. SOME LUANDA WHITES ARE RELUCTANT TO LEAVE UNTIL THEIR CARS AND BELONGINGS ARE SHIPPED OUT. THE PORT IS SLOW. TO KEEP THINGS MOVING AND FILL AIRCRAFT, LUANDA RESIDENTS ARE TOLD THAT THEY MUST DEPART IF THEIR PERMIT HAS BEEN ISSUED. A LARGE AUTOMOBILE-CARRYING SHIP IS LOADING SOME 3,500 VEHICLES IN LUANDA AND A LARGE PORTUGUESE LINER, THE INFANTE DON HENRIQUE, IS LOADING LARGE QUANTITIES OF PERSONAL GOODS. THIS SHOULD STIMULATE SOME LUANDA RESIDENTS TO LEAVE. ANOTHER AUTO-CARRYING SHIP IS EXPECTED. FOR SOME REASON, MANY LUANDA WHITE HAVE SELECTED OCTOBER 15 AS THE DAY THEY WISH TO DEPART. THE RUMOR MILL HAS IT THAT A CATACLYSMIC EVENT WILL OCCUR ON THAT DAY. ANGOLAN RUMORS ALWAYS HAVE A DATE ATTACHED TO THEM.

3. WE HAVE HEARD THE PORTUGUESE AUTHORITIES WILL SOON ANNOUNCE THAT THEY WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANYONE WHO DOESN'T LEAVE BEFORE THE END OF OCTOBER. WE HAVE ALSO HEARD THAT PORTUGUESE MILITARY WILL DEPART CABINDA OCTOBER 10.

4. THE NEW CLASS: LUANDA RADIO STATIONS HAVE CALLED ON RESIDENTS OF POOR AREAS (MUSSEQUES OR "POPULAR NEIGHBROHOODS") TO COMBAT THE HIGH PRICES CHARGED BY "MULATTOES" ON THE ESSENTIALS OF LIFE: "BEER, RICE AND BEANS". RADIO COMMENTATORS CALL ON THE MULATTOES NOT BE BECOME A NEW CLASS OF EXPLOITERS NOW THAT THE PORTUGUESE SMALL SHOPKEEPERS HAVE LEFT. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH MPLA PROPAGANDISTS DECRY RACISM AND TRIBALISM, THIS CRITICISM OR ATTACK ON MULATTOES COULD PROVOKE TENSIONS IN THE SLUMS.

KILLORAN

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